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## CONTENTS

Cover Design.....	Eichner & Bank
Our National Pastime—By A. Bart. Horton	3
Home Sweet Home—By R. R. Laughlin	5
Kentuckians of Today.....	7
Agricultural Department.....	8
Jim Treadway's Price—By A. Bart. Horton	11

## EDITORIAL

### SALUTE THE FLAG.

**F**OR many years American citizenship has not been held in very high esteem by foreign nations. Mexico is not the only country that has committed outrages upon American citizenship, although it has been by far more flagrant in those offenses than any other country. The Stars and Stripes should at all times envelope the American citizen abroad with its protection, providing, of course, that no laws of this foreign nation are being violated. Too often in the past we have heard of cases of Americans mistreated in foreign countries, and too often there have been cases that we have never heard of. It is the duty of our State Department to see that instant reparation is made in these cases, and to see that adequate protection follows the American citizen at all times. His interests and the interests of the flag are identical and an insult to him is just as grave an offense as an insult to an American marine. Our State Department for many years has become so infatuated with diplomacy that they deal with it as a delicious morsel to be lingeringly partaken of and to be exhausted with a sigh. War is abhorant, but peace with dishonor is far more so and an American citizen, who, in private life, accepts peace with dishonor is considered a coward and is held in contemptuous scorn. Why should not the same result attach to the nation, and it undoubtedly does, besides, it only averts war, for this is finally forced on us by the contemptuous scorn in which we are held by the foreign people at large. Of course, the governments of larger foreign nations, such as England, France, Germany and Russia, are fully aware of the fighting strength and fighting ability of the United States, but their people are not possessed of this knowledge, nor have they the least idea that no people in the wide world are quicker to respond to the call of arms than the citizens of the United States. We are regarded by them as a money making, peace at any price people. They are too prone to forget the lessons that we have taught several times when our government was finally forced into war. The eloquent and fearless Patrick Henry, delivering his immortal address stood before his audience with bowed head and bent shoulders depicting the attitude of slavery, in low and trembling tones scarcely audible, he began that wonderful speech. The voice became firm and louder, his form straightened up as he cast off the shackles and in a splendid and fearless manner said, "Give me liberty or give me death." He hurled defiance at the then greatest nation on earth. We are today the same people as he addressed a hundred and fifty years ago. Let us protect the citizenship that these noble patriots gave us. The spirit that inspired the American soldier at Bunker Hill and Valley Forge is the same spirit that inspired the deeds of daring at Gettysburg, at San Juan and in the Philippines. It is with this selfsame spirit that our Government should and must say to the whole world, "Thou shalt honor our flag and our people."

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